

The Day of Doom:
OR, A
DESCRIPTION
Of the Great and Last
Judgment.
WITH
A SHORT DISCOURSE
ABOUT
ETERNITY.

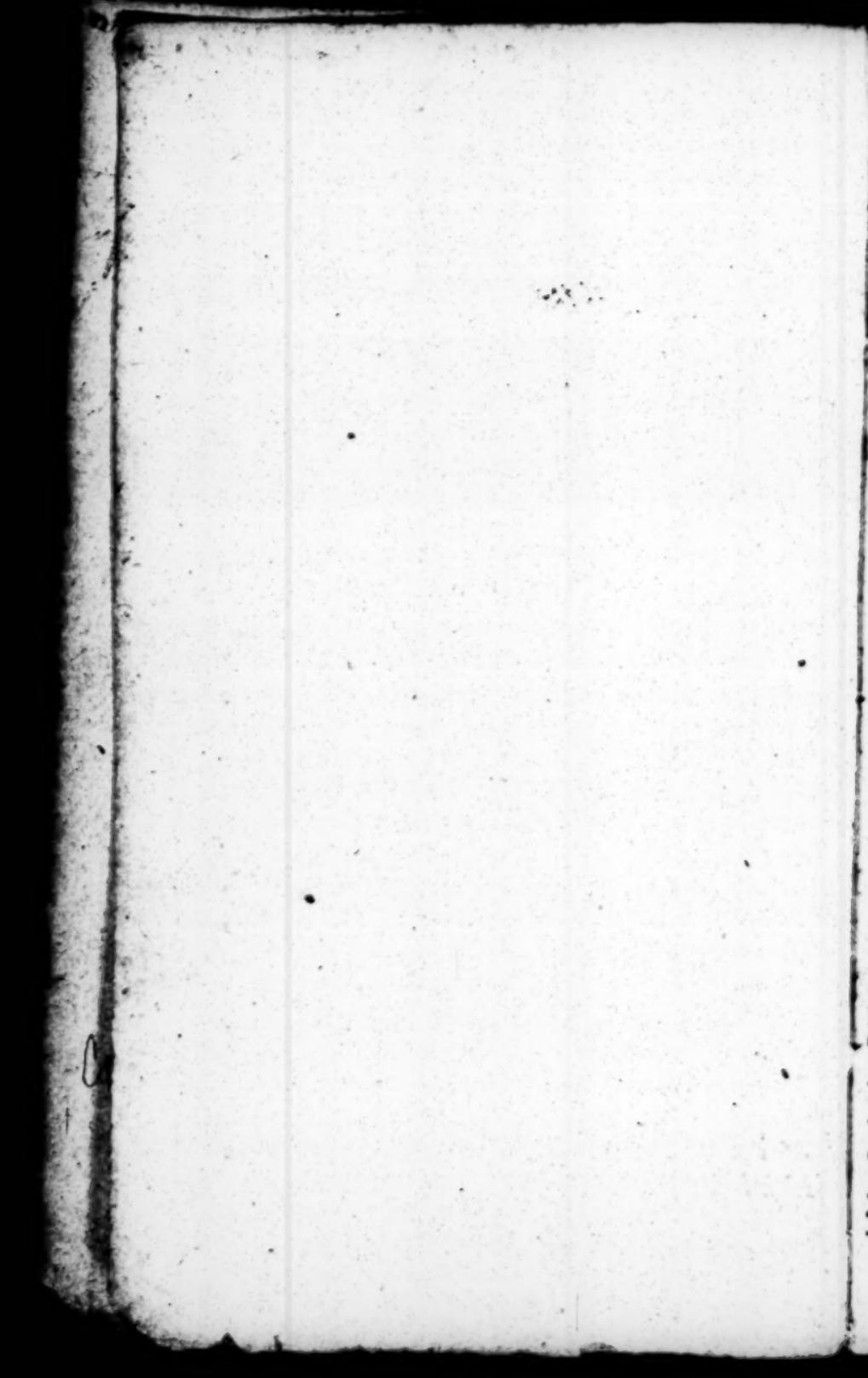
Eccles. 12. 14.

For God shall bring every work into judgment,
with every secret thing, whether it be good,
or whether it be evil.

by R. Wigglesworth.

L O N D O N:

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Marg: Dightwick

A Prayer unto C H R I S T the Judge of the VVorld.

O Dearest Dread, most glorious King,
I'le of thy Justice, Judgement sing:
Do thou my head and beart inspire
To do't aright, as I desire.
Thee, thee alone I'le invocate:
For I do much abominate
To call the Muses to mine aid:
Which is the unchristian use and trade
Of some that Christians would be thought;
And yet they Worship worse than nought.
Oh, what a deal of Blasphemy,
And Heathenish Impiety,
In Christian Poets may be found,
Where Heathen Gods with Praise are crown'd!
They make J E H O V A H to stand by,
Till Juno, Venus, Mercury,
With frowning Mars, and thund'ring Jove,
Rule Earth below, and Heav'n above.
But I have learn'd to pray to none,
Save unto God in Christ alone.
Nor will I laud, no not in jest,
That which I know God doth detest.

I reckon it a damning Evil,
To give Gods Praises to the Devil.
Thou, Christ, art be to whom I Pray:
Thy Glory fain would I display.
Oh, guide me by the sacred Sp'rite
So to indite, and so to write,
That I thine Holy Name may Praise,
And teach the Sons of Men thy ways.

The

The day of Doom.

I.

STILL was the Night, serene and bright,
when all Men sleeping lay ;
Calm was the Season, and carnal Reason
thought so 'twould last for ay.
Soul take thine ease, let sorrow cease,
much good thou hast in store ;
This was their Song their Cups among,
the evening before.

II.

Wallowing in all kind of Sin,
vile Wretches lay secure ;
The best of men have scarcely then
their Lamps kept in good ure.
Virgins unwise, who through disguise
amongst the best were number'd,
Had clos'd their Eyes ; yea , and the Wise
through sloth and frailty slumber'd.

III.

Like as of old, when men grew bold
Gods threatenings to contemn ,
(Who stopt their ear, and would not hear
when mercy warned them :
But took their course, without remorse
till God began to pour
Destruction the World upon ,
in a tempestuous Shower .)

IV.

They put away the evil day,
and drown'd their cares and fears,
Till drown'd were they, and stept away
by vengeance unawares :
So at the last, whilst men sleep fast
in their security,
Surpriz'd they are in such a snare
as cometh suddenly.

V.

For at midnight broke forth a light,
which turn'd the night to day :
And speedily an hideous cry
did all the World dismay.
Sinners awake, their hearts do ake,
Trembling their loyns surprizeth ;
Amaz'd with fear, by what they hear,
each one of them ariseth.

VI.

They rush from beds with giddy heads,
and to their windows run,
Viewing this Light, which shines more bright
than doth the noon-day Sun.
Straightway appears (they see't with tears)
the Son of God most dread ;
Who with his Train comes on a main
to judge both Quick and Dead.

VII.

Before his Face the Heav'ns give place,
and Skies are rent asunder,

VVith mighty voice and hideous noise,
more terrible than Thunder.

His brightness damps Heav'ns glorious lamps,
and makes them hide their heads :
As if afraid, and quite dismaid,
they quit their wonted steads.

VIII.

Ye sons of men that durst contemn
the threatenings of God's VVord,
How cheer you now? your hearts (I trow)
are thrill'd as with a Sword.
Now Atheist blind, whose brutish mind
a God could never see ;
Dost thou perceive, dost now believe
that Christ thy Judge shall be ?

IX.

Stout courages (whose hardiness
could Death and Hell out-face)
Are you as bold now yon behold
your Judge draw near apace ?
They cry, No, no : Alas and wo !
our courage all is gone :
Our hardineſſ, (fool-hardineſſ)
hath us undone, undone.

X.

No heart so bold but now grows cold,
and almost dead with fear : .
No eye so dry but now can cry,
and pour out many a tear.

right
rs)

With

Earths Potentates and pow'rful States,
 Captains and Men of Might
 Are quite abasht, their Courage dasht
 at this most dreadful sight.

X I.

Mean men lament, great men do rent
 their Robes, and tear their Hair :
 They do not spare their Flesh to tear
 through horrible despair.
 All kindreds wail, their hearts do fail :
 horror the World doth fill
 With weeping Eyes, and loud Out cries,
 yet knows not how to kill.

X II.

Some hide themselves in Caves and Delves,
 and Places under Ground :
 Some rashly leap into the deep,
 to 'scape by being drown'd :
 Some to the Rocks, (Qsensless blocks)
 and woody Mountains run ,
 That there they might this fearful sight
 and dreadful Presence shun.

X III.

In vain do they to Mountains say,
 Fall on us, and us hide
 From Judges Ire, more hot than Fire,
 For who may it abide ?
 No hiding place can from his Face,
 Sinners at all conceal ,
 Whose flaming Eye hid things doth spy ,
 and darkest things reveal.

X IV.

XIV.

The Judge draws nigh, exalted high
upon a lofty Throne,
Amidst the throng of Angels strong,
Like *Israel's* Holy One.
The excellence of whose Presence,
and awful Majesty,
Amazeth Nature, and every Creature
doth more than terrifie.

XV.

The Mountains smoak, the Hills are shook,
the Earth is rent and torn,
As if she should be clean dissolv'd,
or from her Center born.
The Sea doth roar, forsake the Shore,
and shrinks away for fear:
The wild Beasts flee into the Sea
so soon as he draws near.

XVI.

Whose glory bright, whose wondrous might,
whose Power Imperial,
So far surpass what ever was
in Realms Terrestrial;
That Tongues of Men (nor Angels Pen)
cannot the same express:
And therefore I must pass it by
lest speaking should transgress:

XVII.

Before his Throne a Trump is blown,
proclaiming th' day of Doom:

Forth-

The day of Doom.

Forthwith he cries, *Ye dead arise,
and unto Judgment come.*

No sooner said, but 'tis obey'd ;
Sepulchres open'd are ;
Dead bodies all rise at his call,
and's mighty power declare.

XVIII.

Both sea and land at his command,
their dead at once surrender :

The fire and air constrained are
also their dead to render.

The mighty Word of this great Lord
links body and soul together,
Both of the just and the unjust,
to part no more for ever.

XIX.

The same translates from mortal states
to immortality,

All that survive, and be alive,
in th' twinkling of an eye.

That so they may abide for ay,
to endless weal or woe ;

Both the Renate and Reprobate
are made to dye no moe.

XX.

His winged Hosts fly through all Coasts,
together, gathering

Both good and bad, both quick and dead,
and all to Judgment bring.

Out of their holes these creeping Moles,
that hid themselves for fear,

By

The day of Doom.

7

By force they take, and quickly make
before the Judge appear.

XXXI.

Thus every one before the Throne
of Christ the Judge is brought,
Both righteous and impious,
that good or ill had wrought.
A separation, and diff'reng station
by Christ appointed is
To sinners sad ('twixt good and bad)
'twixt Heirs of woe and bliss.

XXII.

At Christs right hand the Sheep do stand,
his Holy Martyrs who
For his dear Name, suffering shame,
calamity, and woe,
Like Champions stood, and with their blood
their Testimony sealed ;
Whose innocence, without offence
to Christ their Judge appealed.

XXIII.

Next unto whom there find a room,
all Christs afflicted ones,
Who being chastis'd, neither despis'd,
nor sank amidst their groans :
Who by the Rod were turn'd to God,
and loved him the more ;
Nor murmuring nor quarrelling
when they were chast'ned sore.

XXIV.

By

The day of Doom.

XXIV.

Moreover such as loved much,
that had not such a Tryal,
As might constrain to so great Pain
and such deep self-denial;
Yet ready were the Cross to bear,
when Christ them call'd thereto,
And did rejoice to hear his Voice,
they'r counted Sheep also.

XXV.

Christ's flock of Lambs there also stands,
whose Faith was weak, yet true;
All sound Believers (Gospel-receivers)
whose Grace was small, but grew.
And them among an Infant throng
of Babes, for whom Christ dy'd;
Whom for his own, by ways unknown
to men, he sanctifi'd.

XXVI.

All stand before their Saviour
in long white Robes yclad,
Their Countenance full of pleasance,
appearing wondrous glad.
O glorious sight! behold how bright
dust heaps are made to shine,
Conformed so their Lord unto,
whose Glory is Divine.

XXVII.

At Christs left hand the Goats do stand,
all whining Hypocrites;

Who

Who for self-ends did seem Christ's Friends,
but fost'red guileful Sp'rites :
Who Sheep resembled, but they dissembled
(their heart was not sincere)
Who once did throng Christ's Lambs among;
but now must not come near.

XVIII.

Apostata's, and Run-away's,
such as have Christ forsaken,
(Of whom the Devil, with seven more evil,
hath fresh Possession taken :
Sinners in grain, reserv'd to pain,
and Torments most severe :)
Because 'gainst light they sinn'd with spight,
are also placed there.

XXIX.

There also stand a num'rous band,
that no Profession made
Of Godliness, nor to redress
their ways at all assay'd :
Who better knew, but (sinful Crew !)
Gospel and Law despised ;
Who all Christs knocks withstood like blocks,
and would not be advised.

XXX.

Moreover there with them appear
a number numberless
Of great and small, vile Wretches all,
that did Gods Law transgress :
dolaters, false Worshippers,
Prophaners of Gods Name,

Who

The day of Doom.

Who not at all thereon did call,
or took in vain the same.

XXXI.

Blasphemers lew'd, and Swearers shrew'd,
Scoffers at Purity,
That hated God, contemn'd his Rod,
and lov'd security.
Sabbath polluters, Saints Persecuters,
Presumptuous men, and Proud,
Who never lov'd those that reprov'd ;
all stand amongst this crowd.

XXXII.

Adulterers and Whoremongers
were there, with all unchast.
There Covetous, and Ravenous,
that Riches got too fast :
Who us'd vile ways themselves to raise
t' Estates and worldly Wealth,
Oppression by, or Knavery,
by Force, or Fraud, or Stealth.

XXXIII.

Moreover, there together were
Children flagitious,
And Parents who did them undo
by Nature vicious.
False-witness-bearers, and self-forswearers,
Murd'lers and men of blood,
Witches, Inchanter, and Alehouse-haunters,
beyond account there stood.

XXXIV.

XXXIV.

Their place there find all Heathen blind,
that Natures light abused,
Although they had no tidings glad
of Gospel-grace refused.
There stand all Nations and Generations
of Adam's Progeny, [esteem'd not
Who Christ redeem'd not, who Christ
through infidelity.

XXXV.

Who no Peace-maker, no Undertaker
to shrowd them from God's Ire
Ever obtained ; they must be pained
with everlasting fire.

These num'rous bands, wringing their hands,
and weeping, all stand there,
Filled with anguish, whose hearts do languish
through self-tormenting fear.

XXXVI.

Fast by them stand at Christ's left hand
the Lion fierce and fell,
The Dragon bold, that Serpent old
that hurried Souls to Hell.
There also stand, under command
Legions of Sp'rits unclean :
And hellish Fiends that are no friends
to God, nor unto men.

XXXVII.

With dismal chains and strong reins,
like prisoners of Hell,

They'r

They're held in place before Christ's face,
till he their Doom shall tell,
These void of Tears, but fill'd with Fears,
and dreadful Expectation.
Of endless Pains, and scalding Flames,
stand waiting for Damnation.

XXXVII.

All silence kept, both Goats and Sheep,
before the Judges Throne:
With mild aspect to his Elect
then spake the Holy One :
My Sheep draw near, your Sentence hear,
which is to you no dread,
Who clearly now discern and know
your Sins are pardoned.

XXXIX.

'Twas meet that ye should judged be,
that so the World may spy
No cause of grudge, when as I judg
and deal impartially.
Know therefore all both great and small,
the ground and reason why
These men do stand at my right hand,
and look so cheerfully.

XL.

These men be those my Father chose
before the Worlds Foundation,
And to me gave, that I should save
from Death and Condⁿration.
For whose dear sake I Flein did take,
was of a Woman born,

And

The day of Doom.

13

And did inure my self t'endure
unjust Reproach and Scorn.

XL I.

For them it was that I did pass
through Sorrows many a one :
That I drank up that bitter Cup ,
which made me Sigh and Groan.
The Crosses pain I did sustain ;
yea, more, my Fathers ire
I underwent , my Blood I spent
to save them from Hell fire.

XL II.

Thus I esteem'd, thus I redeem'd
all these from every Nation,
That they might be (as now you see)
a chosen Generation.

What if e're while they were as vile,
and bad as any be ,
And yet from all their guilt and thrall,
at once I set them free ?

XL III.

My Grace to one is wrong to none :
none can Election claim.

Amongst all those their Souls that lose ,
None can Rejection blame.

He that may chuse, or else refuse ,
all men to save or spill ,
May this man chuse, and that refuse ,
redeeming whom he will .

B

XL IV.

The day of Doom.

XLIV.

But as for those whom I have chose
 Salvations Heirs to be ;
 I underwent their punishment,
 and therefore set them free.
 I bore their grief, and their relief
 by suffering procur'd,
 That they of bliss and happiness
 might firmly be assur'd.

XLV.

And this my grace they did embrace,
 believing on my Name ;
 VVhich Faith was true, the fruits do shew
 proceeding from the same.
 Their Penitence, their Patience,
 their Love, their Self-denial ;
 In suffering losses and bearing crosses,
 when put upon the trial.

XLVI.

Their sin-forsaking, their cheerful taking
 my yoke ; their charity
 Unto the Saints in all their wants,
 and in them unto me.
 These things do clear, and make appear
 their Faith to be unfeigned :
 And that a part in my desert,
 and purchase they have gained.

XLVII.

Their debts are paid, their peace is made,
 their sins remitted are ;

There-

Therefore at once I do pronounce,
and openly declare,
That Heaven is theirs, that they be Heirs
of Life and of Salvation ;
Nor ever shall they come at all
to death or to damnation.

XLVII.

Come, blessed Ones, and sit on Thrones,
Judging the VVorld with me :
Come, and possess your happiness,
and bought felicitie.
Henceforth no fears, no care, no tears,
no sin shall you annoy,
Nor any thing that grief doth bring,
eternal rest enjoy.

XLIX.

You bore the Cross, you suffered loss
of all for my Names-sake :
Receive the Crown that's now your own ;
come, and a Kingdom take.
Thus spake the Judge : The wicked grudge,
and grind their teeth in vain :
They see with groans these plac'd on thrones,
which added to their pain :

L.

That those whom they did wrong and slay,
must now their judgment see !
Such whom they slighted and once de-
-
must of their Judges be ! (spighted.)
Thus 'tis decreed, such in their meed,
and guerdon glorious : B 2 VVith

The day of Doom.

With Christ they sit, judging it fit
to plague the impious.

L I.

The wicked are brought to the Bar
like guilty Malefactors,
That often times of bloody Crimes
and Treasons have been Actors.
Of wicked men none,
as there to be neg'ected :
Nor none so high in dignity,
as there to be respected.

L II.

The glorious Judg will priviledg
nor Emperor nor King :
But every one that hath misdone,
doth into Judgment bring :
And every one that hath misdone,
the Judg impartially
Condemneth to Eternal wo,
and endless Misery.

L III.

Thus one and all, thus great and small,
the rich as well as poor,
And those of place, as the most base,
do stand their Judg before :
They are arraign'd, and there detain'd
before Christ's Judgment seat,
With trembling fear their Doom to hear,
and feel his anger's heat.

L IV.

LIV.

There Christ demands at all their hands
a strict and straight account
Of all things done under the Sun ;
whose numbers far surmount
Man's wit and thought : Yet all are brought
unto this solemn trial ;
And each offence with evidence,
so that there's no denial.

L V.

There's no excuses for their abuses,
since their own Consciences
More proof give in of each mans Sin,
than thousand Witnesses.
Tho formerly this faculty
had grossly been abused,
(Men could it stifle, or with it trifle,
when as it them accused.)

L VI.

Now it comes in, and every Sin
unto mans charge doth lay :
It judgeth them, and doth condemn,
tho all the World say nay.
It so stingeth and tortureth,
it worketh such distres,
That each manself against himself
is forced to accuse.

L VII.

It's vain, moreover, for men to cover
the least iniquity ;

The Judge hath seen and privy been
to all their villany.

He unto light and open sight
the works of darkness brings :
He doth unfold both new and old,
both known and hidden things.

LVIII.

All filthy facts, and secret acts,
however closely done,
And long conceal'd, are there reveal'd
before the mid-day Sun.

Deeds of the night, shunning the light,
which darkest corners sought,
To fearful blame, and endless shame,
are there most justly brought.

LIX.

And as all facts and grosser acts,
so every word and thought,
Erroneous notion and lustful motion,
are into judgment brought.

No Sin so small and trivial,
but hither it must come :

Nor so long past, but now at last
it must receive a doom.

LX.

At this sad season Christ asks a reason,
(with just austerity)

Of Grace refus'd, of Light abus'd
so oft, so wilfully :

Of Talents, lent by them mis-spent,
and on their lusts bestow'n;

VVhi

VVhich if improv'd, as it behov'd,
Heaven might have been their own.

LXI.

Of time neglected, of means rejected,
of God's long-suffering,
And patience, to penitence
that sought hard hearts to bring.
Why cords of love did nothing move
to shame or to remorse?
Why warnings grave, and counsels have
nought chang'd their sinful course?

LXII.

Why chastenings and evil things,
why judgments so severe,
Prevailed not with them a jot,
nor wroughr an awful fear?
Why promises of Holiness,
and new obedience,
They oft did make, but always break
the same to God's offence?

LXIII.

Why, still Hell-ward, without regard,
they boldly ventured;
And chose Damnation before Salvation,
when it was offered?
Why sinful pleasures and earthly treasures,
like fools they prized more
Than heavenly wealth, eternal health,
and all Christs Royal store?

LXIV.

The day of Doom.

LXIV.

Why, when he stood off'ring his Blood
to wash them from their Sin,
They would embrace no saving Grace
but liv'd and dy'd therein ?
Such Aggravations, where no Evasions
nor false Pretences hold,
Exaggerate and cumulate
guilt more than can be told.

LXV.

They multiply and magnifie
mens gross Iniquities ;
They draw down wrath (as Scripture saith)
out of God's treasures.
Thus all their ways Christ open lays
to Men and Angels view ,
And, as they were, makes them appear
in their own proper hue.

LXVI.

Thus he doth find of all mankind
that stand at his left hand
No Mothers Son but hath misdone,
and broken God's command.
All have transgreſſt, even the best,
and merited God's Wrath
Unto their own Perdition,
and everlasting scath.

LXVII.

Earth's dwellers all both great and small,
have wrought iniquity,

And

And suffer must (for it is just)
eternal misery.

Amongst the many there come not any
before the Judge's face,
That able are themselves to clear
of all this Cursed race.

L XVIII.

Nevertheless they all express,
Christ granting liberty,
What for their way they have to say,
how they have liv'd, and why.
They all draw near, and seek to clear
themselves by making pleas.
There Hypocrites false-hearted wights
do make such pleas as these.

L XIX.

Lord, in thy Name, and by the same
we Devils dispossest :
We rais'd the dead, and ministred
succour to the distrest.
Our painful preaching & pow'rful teaching
by thine own wond'rous might,
Did throughly win from God to Sin
many a wretched wight.

L XX.

All this (quoth he) may granted be,
and your case little better'd,
Who still remain under a chain,
And many irons fetter'd.

C

You

You that the dead have quickened,
and rescu'd from the grave,
Your selves were dead, yet never need
a Christ your Souls to save.

LXXI:

You that could preach, and others teach,
what way to life doth lead ;
Why were you slack to find that track,
and in that way to tread ?
How could you bear to see or hear
of others freed at last
From Satans Paws whilst in his jaws
your selves were held more fast ?

LXXII.

Who though you knew Repentance true,
and faith in my great Name,
The only mean to quit you clean
from punishment and blame,
Yet took no pain true faith to gain,
(such as might not deceive)
Nor would repent with true intent
your evil deeds to leave.

LXXIII.

His Masters will now to fulfil
The servant that well knew,
Yet left undone his duty known,
more plagues to him are due.
You against Light perverted Right ;
wherefore it shall be now
For Sidon and for Sodom's Land
more easie than for you.

LXX

LXXIV.

But we have in thy presence bin,
say some, and eaten there.
Did we not eat thy flesh for meat,
and feed on heav'nly cheer ?
Whereon who feed shall never need,
as thou thy self dost say ;
Nor shall they dye eternally,
but live with thee for ay.

LXXV.

We may alledge, thou gav'st a pledge
of thy dear love to us
In Wine and Bread, which figured
thy grace bestowed thus.
Of strengthning seals, of sweetest meals
have we so oft partaken ?
And shall we be cast off by thee,
and utterly forsaken ?

LXXVI.

To whom the Lord thus in a word
returns a short reply :
I never knew any of you
that wrought iniquity.
You say y' have bin, my Presence in :
But, friends, how came you here
With Raiment vile, that did defile
and quite disgrace my cheer ?

LXXVII.

Durst you draw near without due fear
unto my Holy Table ?

Durſt you prophane and render vain
ſo far as you were able,
Those Mysterieſ, which whoſo prize
and carefully improve,
Shall ſaved be undoubtedlē ,
and nothing ſhall them move.

L XXVIII.

How durſt you venture bold guests, to enter
in ſuch a ſordid hue,
Amongſt my guests, unto those feaſts
that were not made for you ?
How durſt you eat for ſpir'tual meat
your bane, and drink damnation,
Whilſt by your guile you rendred vile
ſo rare and great ſalvation ?

L XXIX.

Your fancies fed on heav'ly bread ;
your hearts fed on ſome luſt :
You lov'd the Creature more than th' Crea-
your ſouls clave to the dust. [tor
And think you by hypocriſie
and clothed wickedneſſ,
To enter in laden with ſin,
to laſting happiness.

L XXX.

This your excuse ſhews your abuse
of things ordain'd for good ;
And do declare you guilty are
of my dear Fleſh and Blood.
Wherefore thoſe Seals and precious Meals
you put ſo much upon,

As

As things divine, they seal and sign
you to perdition.

L XXXI.

Then forth issue another Crew,
(those being silenced)
Who drawing nigh to the most High
adventure thus to plead:
We sinners were, say they, 'tis clear,
deserving Condemnation,
But did not we rely on thee,
O Christ, for whole Salvation ?

L XXXII.

We did believe, and oft receive
thy gracions Promises ;
We took great care to get a share
in endless Happiness.
We pray'd and wept, we fast-days kept,
lewd ways we did eschew ;
We joyful were thy word to hear
we form'd our lives a new.

L XXXIII.

We thought our sin had pardon'd been,
that our estate was good,
Our debts all paid, our peace well made,
our Soul's washt with thy Blood.
Lord, why dost thou reject us now,
who have not thee rejected,
Nor utterly true sanctity
and holy life neglected?

LXXXIV.

The Judge incensed at their pretended
self vaunting piety,
With such a look as trembling strook
into them, made reply :
O impudent, impenitent,
and guileful generation !
Think you that I cannot descry
your hearts abomination ?

LXXXV.

You not receiv'd, nor yet believ'd
my promises of Grace,
Nor were you wise enough to prize
my reconciled face :
But did presume, that to assume
which was not yours to take,
And challenged the childrens bread,
yet would not sin forsake.

LXXXVI.

Beirg too bold you laid fast hold
where int'rest you had none,
Your selves deceiving by your believing :
all which you might have known.
You ran away (but ran astray)
with Gospel promises,
And perished, being still dead
in sins and trespasses.

LXXXVII.

How oft did I hypocrisy
and hearts deceipts unmask

Before

Before your sight, giving you light
to know a Christians task ?
But you held fast unto the last
your own conceits so vain :
No warning could prevail, you would
your own deceits retain.

LXXXVIII.

As for your care to get a share
in bliss, the fear of Hell,
And of a part in endless smart,
did thereunto compel.
Your holiness and ways redress,
such as it was, did spring
From no true love to things above,
but from some other thing.

LXXXIX.

You pray'd and wept, you Fast-days kept,
but did you this to me ?
No, but for sin you sought to win
the greater libertie.
For all your vaunts, you had vile haunts :
For which your consciences
Did you alarm, whose voice to charm
you us'd these practices.

XC.

Your penitence, your diligence
to read, to pray, to hear,
Were but to drown the clam'rous sound
of conscience in your ear.
If light you lov'd, vain glory mov'd
your selves therewith to store, That

That seeming wise, men might you prize,
and honour you the more.

XC I

Thus from your selves unto your selves
your duties all do tend :
And as self-love the wheels do move,
so in self-love they end.
Thus Christ detects their vain projects,
and close impiety,
And plainly shews that all their shows
were but hypocrisy.

XC II.

Then were brought nigh a company
of civil honest men,
That lov'd true dealing, and hated stealing,
ne wrong'd their brethren.
Who pleaded thus, Thou knowest us
that we were blameless livers,
No Whore-mongers, no Murderers,
no Quarrellers nor Strivers.

XC III.

Idolaters, Adulterers,
Church-robbers we were none,
Nor false-dealers, nor couzeners,
but paid each man his own.
Our way was fair, our dealing square,
we were no wastful spenders ;
No lewd toss pots, no drunken sots,
no scandalous offenders.

XCIV.

X C IV.

We hated vice, and set great price
by virtuous conversation :
And by the same we got a name,
and no small commendation.
God's Laws express, that righteousness
is that which he doth prize ;
And to obey, as he doth say,
is more than sacrifice.

X C V.

Thus to obey, hath been our way ;
let our good deeds, we pray,
Find some regard, and good reward
with thee, O Lord, this day.
And whereas we transgressors be ;
of *Adam's Race* were none,
(No not the best) but have confess'd
themselves to have misdone.

X C VI.

Then answered, unto their dread,
the Judge, True piety
God doth desire and eke require
no less than honesty.
Justice demands at all your hands
perfect Obedience ;
If but in part you have come short,
that is a just offence.

X C VII.

On earth below where men did owe
a thousand pounds and more,

Could.

Could twenty pence it recompence ?
could that have clear'd the score ?
Think you to buy felicity
with part of what's due debt ?
Or for desert of one small part,
the whole should off be set ?

XCVIII

And yet that part (whose great desert
you think to reach so far
For your excuse) doth you accuse,
and will your boasting mar.
However fair, however square
your way, and work hath been
Before mens eyes ; yet God espies
iniquity therein.

XCIX.

God looks upon th' affection
and temper of the heart ;
Not only on the action,
and the external part.
Whatever end vain men pretend,
God knows the verity :
And by the end which they intend
their words and deeds doth try.

C.

Without true faith, the Scripture saith,
God cannot take delight
In any deed, that doth proceed
from any sinful wight.
And without love all actions prove
but barren empty things :

Dead

Dead works they be, and vanity,
the which vexation brings.

C I.

Nor from true faith, which quencheth
hath your obedience flown; [wrath
Nor from true love, which wont to move
believers, hath it grown.

Your argument shews your intent
in all that you have done:

You thought to scale heavens lofty wall,
by ladders of your own.

C II.

Your blinded spirit, hoping to merit
by your own righteousness,

Needed no Saviour, but your behaviour
and blameless carriages.

You trusted to what you could do,
and in no need you stood:

Your haughty pride laid me aside:
and trampled on my Blood.

C III.

All men have gone astray, and done
that which God's Laws condemn:

But my Purchase and offered Grace
all men did not contemn.

The Ninevites and Sodomites
had no such sin as this:

Yet as if all your sins were small,
you say, All did amiss.

C IV.

C IV.

Again, you thought, and mainly sought
 a name with men t' acquire ;
 Pride bare the bell that made you swell,
 and your own selves admire.
 Mean fruit it is, and vile, I wis,
 that springs from such a root :
 Virtue divine and genuine
 wants not from pride to shoot.

C V.

Such deeds as you are worse than poor,
 they are but sins gilt over
 With silver dross, whose glistering gloss
 can them no longer cover,
 The best of them would you condemn,
 and ruin you alone,
 Although you were from faults so clear,
 that other you had none.

C VI.

Your gold is dross, your silver brass,
 your righteousness is sin,
 And think you by such honesty
 Eternal life to win ?
 You much mistake, if for its sake
 you dream of acceptance ;
 Whereas the same deserveth shame,
 and meriteth damnation.

C VII.

A wond'rous Crow'd then 'gan aloud
 thus for themselves to say ;

We

We did intend, Lord to amend,
and to reform our way :
Our true intent was to repent,
and make our peace with thee ;
But sudden death stopping our breath,
lest us no libertie.

C VII.

Short was our time ; for in his prime
our youthful flow'r was cropt :
We dy'd in youth, before full growth ;
so was our purpose stopt.
Let our good will to turn from ill,
and sin to have forsaken,
Accepted be, O Lord, by thee,
and in good part be taken.

C IX.

To whom the Judge ; Where you alledge
the shortness of the space
That from your birth you liv'd on earth,
to compass Saving Grace :
It was Free-grace, that any space
was given you at all
To turn from evil, defie the Devil,
and upon God to call.

C X.

One day, one week, wherein to seek
Gods face with all your hearts,
A favour was that far did pass
the best of your deserts.
You had a season ; what was your Reason
such precious hours to waste ? What

What could you find, what could you mind
that was of greater hast ?

C XI.

Could you find time for vain pastime ?
for loose licentious mirth ?

For fruitless toys, and fading joys
that perish in the birth ?

Had you good leisure for Carnal pleasure
in days of health and youth ?

And yet no space to seek God's face,
and turn to him in truth ?

C XII.

In younger years, beyond your fears,
what if you were surprized ?

You put away the evil day,
and of long life devised.

You oft were told, and might behold,
that Death no age would spare :

Why then did you your time foreflow,
and slight your Souls welfare ?

C XIII.

Had your intent been to Repent,
and had you it desir'd,

There would have been endeavours seen
before your time expir'd.

God makes no treasure, nor hath he pleasure
in idle purposes :

Such fair pretences are foul offences,
and cloaks for wickedness.

C XIV.

C XIV.

Then were brought in and charg'd with sin
another Company,
Who by Petition obtain'd permission
to make apology :
They argued, We were mis-led,
as is well known to thee,
By their Example, that had more ample
abilities than we.

C XV.

Such as profest, we did ~~did~~ detest
and hate each wicked way :
Whose seeming grace whil'st we did trace,
our Souls were led astray.
When men of Parts, Learning and Arts,
professing Piety ,
Did thus and thus, it seem'd to us
we might take liberty.

C XVI.

The Judge replies ; I gave you eyes,
and light to see your way :
Which had you lov'd and well improv'd,
you had not gone astray.
My Word was pure, the Rule was sure ;
why did you it forsake ?
Or thereon trample, and men's Example
your Directory make ?

C XVII.

This you well knew, that God is true,
and that most men are lyers,

In word professing holiness,
in deed thereof deniers.

O simple fools! that having Rules
your lives to Regulate,
Would then refuse, and rather chuse
vile men to imitate.

C XVIII.

But, Lord, say they, we went astray,
and did more wickedly,
By means of those whom thou hast chose
Salvations heirs to be.

To whom the Judge; What you alledge
doth nothing help the case,
But makes appear how vile you were,
and rend'reth you more base.

C XIX.

You understood that what was good
was to be followed,
And that you ought that which was nought
to have relinquished.

Contrariwise, it was your guise,
only to imitate

Good mens defects, and their neglects
that were Regenerate.

C XX.

But to express their holiness,
or imitate their Grace,
Yet little car'd, not once prepar'd
your hearts to seek my Face.

They did Repent, and truly Rent
their hearts for all known sin:

Y

You did Offend, but not Amend,
to follow them therein.

C XXI.

We had thy Word, (saith some) O Lord,
but wiser men than we
Could never yet interpret it,
but always disagree.
How could we fools be led by Rules
so far beyond our ken,
Which to explain, did so much pain,
and puzzle wisest men?

C XXII.

Was all my Word obscure and hard?
the Judg then answered :
It did contain much Truth so plain,
you might have run and read.
But what was hard you never car'd
to know, nor studied :
And things that were most plain and clear,
you never practised.

C XXIII.

The Mystery of Piety
God unto Babes reveals ;
When to the wise he it denies,
and from the World conceals,
If to fulfil God's holy Will
had seemed good to you,
You would have sought Light as you ought,
and done the good you knew.

The day of Doom.

C XXIV.

Then came in view another Crew,
and gan to make their pleas ;
Amongst the rest, some of the best
had such poor shifts as these :
Thou know'st right well, who all canst tell,
we liv'd amongst thy foes,
Who the Renate did sorely hate,
and goodness much oppose.

C XXV.

We Holiness durst not profess,
fearing to be forlorn
Of all our friends, and for amends
to be the wicked's scorn.
We knew their anger would much endanger
our lives and our estates :
Therefore for fear we durst appear
no better than our mates.

C XXVI.

To whom the Lord returns this word ;
O wonderful deceits !
To cast off aw of God's strict Law,
and fear mens wrath and threats !
To fear Hell-fire and God's fierce ire
less than the rage of men !
As if God's wrath could do less scath
then wrath of bretheren !

C XXVII.

To use such strife to temp'ral life
to rescue and secure !

And be so blind as not to mind
that life that will endure !

This was your case, who carnal peace
more than true joys did favour :
Who fed on dust, clave to your lust,
and spurned at my favour.

C XXVIII.

To please your kin, mens loves to win,
to flow in worldly wealth,
To save your skin, these things have been
more than Eternal health.
You had your choice, wherein rejoice,
it was your portion,
For which you chose your Souls t' expose
unto Perdition.

C XXIX.

Who did not hate friends, life, and state,
with all things else for me,
And all forsake, and's Cross up take,
shall never happy be.
Well worthy they do dye for aye,
who death than life had rather ;
Death is their due that so value
the friendship of my Father.

C XXX.

Others argue, and not a few,
Is not God gracious ?
His Equity and Clemency,
are they not marvellous ?
Thus we believ'd ; are we deceiv'd ?
cannot his Mercy great,

D 2 (As

The day of Doom.

(As hath been told to us of old)

allwage his angers heat ?

CXXX.

How can it be that God should see
his Creatures endless pain ?

Or hear their groans or rueful moans,
and still his wrath retain ?

Can it agree with equity ?
can Mercy have the heart

To Recompence few years offence
with Everlasting smart ?

CXXXII.

Can God delight in such a sight
as sinners Misery ?

Or what great good can this our blood
bring unto the most High ?

Oh thou that dost thy Glory most
in pard'ning sin display !

Lord ! might it please thee to release,
and pardon us this day ?

CXXXIII.

Unto thy Name more glorious fame
would not such Mercy bring ?

Would it not raise thine endless praise,
more than our suffering ?

With that they cease, holding their peace,
but cease not still to weep ;

Grief ministers a flood to tears,
in which their words do steep.

CXXXIV.

But all too late ; Grief's out of Date
when Life is at an end.

The glorious King thus answering,
all to his voice attend :

God gracious is, quoth he, like his
no Mercy can be found ;
His Equity and Clemency
to sinners do abound.

CXXXV.

As may appear by those that here
are plac'd at my right hand ;
Whose stripes I bore and clear'd the score
that they might quitted stand.

For surely none but God alone,
whose Grace transcends man's thought,
For such as those that were his foes
like wonders would have wrought.

CXXXVI.

And none but he such lenity
and patience would have shown
To you so long, who did him wrong,
and pull'd his judgements down.

How long a space (O stiff neck'd-Race !)
did patience you afford ?

How oft did love you gently move
to turn unto the Lord ?

CXXXVII.

With cords of Love God often strove
your stubborn hearts to tame :

Never-

Nevertheless, your wickedness
did still resist the same.
If now at last Mercy be past
from you for evermore,
And Justice come in Mercies room,
yet grudge you not therefore.

C XXXVIII.

If into wrath God turned hath
his Long-long suffering,
And now for Love your Vengeance prove,
it is an equal thing.
Your waxing worse, hath stopt the course
of wonted Clemency :
Mercy refus'd, and Grace misus'd
call for severity.

C XXXIX.

It's now high time that every Crime
be brought to punishment :
Wrath long contain'd, and oft refrain'd,
at last must have a vent.
Justice severe cannot forbear
to play sin any longer ;
But must inflict with hand most strict
mischief upon the wronger.

C XL.

In vain do they for Mercy pray,
the season being past,
Who had no care to get a share
therein, while time did last.
The men whose ear refus'd to hear
the voice of Wisdoms cry ,

Earn'd

Earn'd this reward, that none regard
him in his misery.

CXL I.

It doth agree with Equity,
and with God's Holy Law,
That those should die eternally,
that death upon them draw.

The Soul that sins damnation wins ;
for so the Law ordains :

Which Law is just ; and therefore must
such suffer endless pains.

CXL II.

Eternal smart is the desert ;
ev'n of the least offence ;
Then wonder not if I allot
to you this recompence :
But wonder more, that since so sore
and lasting plagues are due
To every sin, you liv'd therein,
Who well the danger knew.

CXL III.

God hath no joy to crush or 'stroy,
and ruin wretched wights :
But to display the glorious ray
of Justice he delights.
To manifest he doth detest
and throughly hate all sin,
By plaguing it, as is most fit,
this shall him glory win.

The day of Doom.

CXLIV.

Then at the Bar arraigned are
an impudenter sort,
Who to evade the guilt that's laid
upon them, thus retort ;
How could we cease thus to transgress ?
how could we Hell avoid,
Whom God's decree shut out from thee,
and sign'd to be destroy'd ?

CXLV.

Whom God ordains to endless pains
by Laws unalterable,
Repentance true, Obedience new,
to save such are unable :
Sorrow for sin no good can win
to such as are rejected ;
Ne can they give, nor yet believe.
that never were elected.

CXLVI.

Of man's faln Race who can true Grace
or Holiness obtain ?
Who can convert or change his heart,
if God with hold the same ?
Had we apply'd our selves, and try'd
as much as who did most
God's Love to gain, our busie pain
and labour had been lost.

CXLVII.

Christ readily makes this reply ;
I damn you not because

You are rejected or not elected ;
 but you have broke my Laws.
 It is but vain your wits to strain
 the End and Means to sever :
 Men fondly seek to dart or break
 what God hath link'd together.

CXLVIII.

Whom God will save, such he will have
 the means of life to use :
 Whom he'll pass by, shall chuse to die,
 and ways of life refuse.
 He that foresees, and fore-decrees,
 in wisdom order'd has,
 That man's free-will electing ill
 shall bring his Will to pass.

CXLIX.

High God's Decree, as it is free,
 So doth it none compel
 Against their will to good or ill ;
 it forceth none to Hell.
 They have their wish whose Souls perish
 with torments in Hell-fire :
 Who rather chose their Souls to lose,
 than leave a loose desire.

CL.

God did ordain sinners to pain ;
 and I to Hell send none,
 But such as swerv'd, and have deserv'd
 destruction as their own.
 His pleasure is, that none from bliss
 and endless happiness

E Be

46 The Day of Doom.

be barr'd, but such as wrong'd him much
by wilful wickedness.

C L I.

You (sinful crew!) no other knew;
but you might be elect:

Why did you then your selves condemn?
why did you me reject?

Where was your strife to gain that life
which lasteth evermore?

You never knock'd, yet say God lock'd
against you Heavens door.

C L II.

I was no vain task to knock, to ask,
whilst life continued.

Who ever sought Heav'n as he ought,
and seeking perished?

The lowly-meek who truly seek
for Christ and for salvation,

There's no Decree whereby such be
ordain'd to condemnation.

C L III.

You argue then; but abject men,
whom God resolves to spill,

Cannot repent, nor their hearts rent;
ne can they change their will.

Not for his *Can* is any man
adjudged unto hell:

But for his *Will* to do what's ill,
and nilling to do well.

C L IV.

I often stood tend'ring my Blood

to

to wash away your guilt :
And eke my Sprite to frame you right
lest your souls should be spilt.
But you, vile race, rejected Grace
when Grace was freely proffer'd :
No changed heart, no heav'nly part
would you, when it was offer'd.

CLV.

Who wilfully the remedy
of Grace and Life contemned,
Cause have the same themselves to blame,
if now they be condemned.
You have your selves, you and none else,
your selves have done to die :
You chose the way to your decay,
and perish'd wilfully.

CLVI.

These words appall and daunt them all ;
dismay'd, and all amort,
Like stocks they stand at Christ's left hand,
and dare no more retort. (fear,
Then were brought near, with trembling
a number numberless
Of blind Heathen and bruitish men,
that did God's Law transgress.

CLVII.

Whose wicked ways, Christ open lays,
and makes their sins appear,
They making pleas the case to ease,
if not themselves to clear.

84 The day of Doom.

Thy written word (say they) good Lord
we never did enjoy :
We not refus'd nor it abus'd ,
Oh do not us destroy !

CLVIII.

You ne're abus'd, nor yet refus'd
my written Word, you plead ;
That's true, (quoth he) therefore shall ye
the less be punished.
You shall not smart for any part
of other mens offence,
But for your own transgression
receive due recompence.

CLIX.

But we were blind, say they, in mind ;
too dim was natures light,
Our only guide (as hath been try'd)
to bring us to the light
Of our estate degenerate,
and curs'd by Adam's fall ;
How we were born and lay forlorn
in bondage and in thrall.

CLX.

We did not know a Christ 'till now,
nor how falm man he saved :
Else should we not, right well we wot,
have so our selves behaved. (turn'd
We should have mourn'd, we should have
from sin at thy reproof,
And been more wise through thine advice
for our own Souls behoof. CLXI.

CLXI.

But natures light shin'd not so bright
to teach us the right way :
We might have lov'd it, and well improv'd
and yet have gone astray. (it,
The Judge most high makes this reply ;
you ignorance pretend,
Dimness of sight, and want of light
your course Heav'n-ward to bend.

CLXII.

How came your mind to be so blind ?
I once you knowledge gave,
Clearness of sight, and judgment right ;
who did the same deprave ?
If to your cost you have it lost,
and quite defac'd the same ;
Your own desert hath caus'd your smart,
you ought not me to blame.

CLXIII.

Your selves into a pit of woe
your own transgressions led :
If I to none my grace had shown,
who had been injur'd ?
If to a few, and not to you,
I shew'd a way of life,
My grace so free, you clearly see,
gives you no ground of strife.

CLXIV.

'Tis vain to tell, you wot full well,
if you in time had known

50 **The Day of Doom.**

Your Misery and Remedy,
 your actions had it shown.

You, sinful crew, have not been true
 unto the light of Nature ;
Nor done the good you understood,
 nor owned your Creator.

C L X V .

He that the Light, because 'tis Light ,
 hath used to despise.

Would not the Light, shining more bright,
 be likely for to prize.

If you had lov'd and well improv'd
 your knowledge and dim sight,

Herein your pain had not been vain,
 your plagues had been more light.

C L X V I .

Then to the Bar all they drew near
 who dy'd in infancy,

And never had or good or bad
 eff. Et yd pers'nally ;

But from the womb unto the tomb
 were straightway carried,

(Or at the least, e're they transgreſt)
 who thus began to plead.

C L X V I I .

If for our own transgression,
 or disobedience,

We here did stand at thy left hand,
 j st were the recompence :

But Adam's guilt our souls hath spilt,
 his fault is charg'd upon us ; And

And that alone hath overthrown,
and utterly undone us.

C L X V I I I .

Not we, but he, ate of the Tree,
whose fruit was interdicted :
Yet on us all of his sad fall
the punishment's inflicted.
How could we sin who had not bin ?
or how is his sin our
Without consent, which to prevent
we never had a pow'r ?

C L X I X .

O great Creator ! why was our nature
depraved and forlorn ?
Why so defil'd, and made so vile
whilst we were yet unborn ?
If it be just, and needs we must
transgressors reckon'd be,
Thy mercy, Lord, to us afford,
which sinners hath set free.

C L X X .

Behold, we see *Adam* set free,
and sav'd from his trespass,
Whose sinful fall hath split us all,
and brought us to this pass.
Canst thou deny us once to try,
or grace to us to tender,
When he finds grace before thy face,
that was the chief offender ?

C L X X I .

Then answered the Judge most dread ;

52 The Day of Doom.

God doth such doom forbid,
 That men should die eternally
 for what they never did.
 But what you call old *Adam's* Fall,
 and only his trespass,
 You call amiss to call it his :
 both his and yours it was,

CLXXII.

He was design'd of all mankind
 to be a publick Head,
 A common Root whence all should shoot,
 and stood in all their stead :
 He stood and fell, did ill or well,
 not for himself alone,
 But for you all, who now his Fall
 and trespass would disown.

CLXXIII.

If he had stood, then all his brood
 had been established
 In Gods true love, never to move,
 nor once awry to tread :
 Then all his Race my Fathers Grace
 should have enjoy'd for ever,
 And wicked Sprights by subtle sleights
 could them have harmed never.

CLXXIV.

Would you have griev'd to have receiv'd
 through *Adam* so much good,
 As had been your for evermore,
 if he at first had stood ?

Would

Would you have said, We ne're obey'd
nor did thy Laws regard ;
It ill befits with benefits
us, Lord, so to reward ?

CLXXV.

Since then to share in his welfare
you could have been content,
You may with reason share in this treason,
and in the punishment.

Hence you were born in state forlorn,
with natures so depraved :

Death was your due, because that you
had thus your selves behaved.

CLXXVI.

You think if we had been as he,
whom God did so betrust,
We to our cost would nee'r have lost
all for a paltry lust.

Had you been made in *Adam's* stead,
you would like things have wrought ;
And so into the self-same woe
your selves and yours have brought.

CLXXVII.

I may deny you once to try,
or Grace to you to tender,
Though he finds grace before my face
who was the chief offender :
Else should my Grace cease to be Grace,
for it should not be free,
If to release whom I shall please
I have not liberty.

CLXXVIII.

CLXXXVIII.

If upon one what's due to none
 I frankly shall bestow,
 And on the rest shall not think best
 compassions skirt to throw,
 Whom injure I? will you envy,
 and grudge at others weal?
 Or me accuse, who do refuse
 your selves to help and heal?

CLXXXIX.

Am I alone of what's my own
 no Master or no Lord?
 Or if I am, how can you claim
 what I to ~~sore~~ afford?
 Will you demand Grace at my hand,
 and challenge what is mine?
 Will you teach me whom to set free,
 and thus my Grace confine?

CLXXX.

Yet to compare your sin with their
 who liv'd a longer time,
 I do confess yours is much less,
 though ev'ry sin's a crime:
 The glorious King thus answering,
 they cease and plead no longer:
 Their consciences must needs confess
 his Reasons are the stronger.

CLXXXI.

Now what remains, but that to pains
 and everlasting smart

Christ should condemn all wicked men,
which is their just desert?

Oh rueful plights of sinful wights!

Oh wretches all forlorn!

That happy been they ne're had seen
the Sun, or not been born.

CLXXXII.

Yea, now it would be good they could
themselves annihilate,

And cease to be, themselves to free
from such a fearful state.

Oh happy Dogs, and Swine, and Frogs!
yea, Serpents generation!

Who do not fear this doom to hear,
and sentence of Damnation!

CLXXXIII.

This is their state so desperate:
their sins are fully known;

Their vanities and villainies
before the world are shown.

As they are gross and impious,
so are their numbers more

Than motes in th' air, or than their hair,
or sands upon the shore.

CLXXXIV.

Divine Justice offended is,
and Satisfaction claimeth:

God's wrathful ire, kindled like fire,
against them fiercely flameth.

Their Judge severe doth quite censure
and all their Pleas off take, That

56 **The day of Doom.**

That never a man, or dare, or can
a further Answer make.

CLXXXV.

Their mouths are shut, each man is put
to silence and to shame :
Nor have they ought within their thought
Christ's Justice for to blame.
The Judge is just, and plague them must,
nor will he mercy shew
(For Mercy's day is past away)
to any of this crew.

CLXXXVI.

The Judge is strong ; doers of wrong
cannot his Power withstand :
None can by flight run out of sight,
nor scape out of his hand.
Sad is their state ; for Advocate
to plead their Cause there's none :
None to prevent their punishment,
or misery to bemone.

CLXXXVII.

O dismal day ! whither shall they
for help or succour flee ?
To God above, with hopes to move
their greatest Enemy ?
His wrath is great whose burning heat
no flood of Tears can slake :
His word stands fast, that they be cast
into the burning Lake.

CLXXXVIII.

The day of Doom. 57
CLXXXVIII.

To Christ their Judge? he doth adjudge
them to the Pit of Sorrow:

Nor will he hear or cry or tear,
nor respite them on morrow.

To Heav'n, Alas, they cannot pass,
it is against them shut:

To enter there (O heavy cheer!)
they out of hopes are pur.

CLXXXIX.

Unto their Treasures, or to their Pleasures?
all these have been forsaken:

Had they full Coffers to make large offers,
their Gold would not be taken.

Unto the place where whileome was
their birth and education?

Lo! Christ begins for their great sins
to fire the Earths foundation.

C XC.

And by and by the flaming Sky
shall drop like moulten Lead
About their ears, t' increase their fears
and aggravate their dread.

To Angels good that ever stood
in their integrity,
Should they betake themselves, and make
their suit incessantly.

C XC I.

They neither skill, nor do they will
to work them any ease:

They will not mourn to see them burn,
nor beg for their release. To

To wicked men, their brethren
in sin and wickedness,
Should they make mone? their case is one;
they're in the same distress.

CXCII.

Ah, cold comfort, and mean support
from such like Comforters!

Ah, little joy of Company,
and Fellow-sufferers!

Such shall increase their hearts disease,
and add unto their woe,
Because that they brought to decay
themselves and many moe.

CXCIII.

Unto the Saints with sad complaints.
Should they themselves apply?

They're not dejected nor ought affected
with all their misery.

Friends stand aloof, and make no proof
what Prayers or Tears can do:

Your Godly friends are now more friends
to Christ than unto you.

CXCIV.

Where tender love mens hearts did move
unto a sympathy,

And bearing part of others smart
in their anxiety;

Now such compassion is out of fashion,
and wholly laid aside:

No friend so near, but Saints to hear
their judgment can abide.

CXCV.

CXC V.

One natural Brother beholds another
in this astonished fit,
Yet sorrows not thereat a jot,
nor pities him a whit.

The godly Wife conceives no grief,
nor can she shed a tear
For the sad state of her dear Mate,
when she his doom doth hear.

CXC VI.

He that was erst a Husband pierc'd
with sense of Wives distress,
Whose tender heart did bear a part
of all her gievances,
Shall mourn no more as heretofore
because of her ill plight ;
Although he see her self now be
a damn'd forsaken wight.

CXC VII.

The tender Mother will own no other
of all her numerous brood,
But such as stand at Christ's right hand
acquitted through his Blood.

The pious Father had now much rather
his graceless Son should lie
In Hell with Devils, for all his evils
burning eternally :

CXC VIII.

Then God most High should injury
by sparing him sust:in ;

And

And doth rejoice to hear Christ's voice
adjudging him to pain.

Who having all (both great and small)
convinc'd and silenced,
Did then proceed their Doom to read,
and thus it uttered :

CXCIX.

*Ye sinful wights, and cursed sprights,
that work Iniquity,*

*Depart together from me for ever
to endless Misery.*

*Your portion take in that sad Lake
where Fire and Brimstone flameth :*

*Suffer the smart, which your desert
as its due wages claimeth.*

C C.

Oh pierceing words more sharp than
what, to depart from *Thee*, (Swords !

Whose face before for evermore
the best of Pleasures be !

What ! to depart (unto our smart)
from thee *Eternally* !

To be for aye banish'd away
with *Devils* company !

CC I.

What to be sent to *Punishment*,
and flames of *Burning Fire* !

To be surrounded, and eke confounded
with God's *Revengeful Ire* !

What ! to abide, not for a tide,
these Torments, but for Ever !

To

To be releated, or to be eated,
not after years, but *Never!*

CCII.

Oh, *Fearful Doom!* now there's no room
for hope, or help at all:

Sentence is past which aye shall last,
Christ will it not recal.

There might you hear them rent and tear
the Air with their out-cries:

The hideous noise of their sad voice
ascendeth to the skies.

CCIII.

Theywring their hands, their caitiff-hands,
and gnash their teeth for terrour:

They cry, they roar for anguish sore,
and gnaw their tongues for horrour.

But get away without delay;
Christ pities not your cry:

Depart to Hell; there may you yell
and roar *Eternally.*

CCIV.

That word *Depart*, maugre their heart;
drives every wicked one,

With mighty pow'r, the self-same hour
far from the Judges Throne.

Away they're cast by the strong blist
of his Death-threatning mouth:

They flee full fast, as if in hast;
although they be full loath.

CCV.

As chaff that's dry, and dust doth fly
before the Northern wind :
Right so are they chased away,
and can no Refuge find.
They hasten to the Pit of woe,
guarded by Angels stout :
Who to fulfil Christs holy Will
attend this wicked Rout.

CCVI.

Whom having brought, as they are taught
unto the brink of Hell :
That dismal place far from Christ's face,
Where Death and Darkness dwell :
Where God's fierce ire kindleth the fire,
and Vengeance feeds the flame
With piles of wood, and Brimstone-flood,
that none can quench the same.

CCVII.

With Iron bands they bind their hands
and cursed feet together,
And cast them all, both great and small,
into that Lake for ever.
Where day and night, without respite,
they wail, and cry, and howl
For tor'tring pain, which they sustain
in Body and in Soul.

CCVIII.

For day and night, in their despight,
their torments smoak ascendeth :

Their

Their pain and grief have no relief,
their anguish never endeth.

There must they lie, and never die ;
though dying every day :

There must they dying ever lie ;
and not consume away.

CCIX.

Die fain they would, if die they could
but death will not be had.

Gods direful wrath their bodies hath
for ev'r Immortal made.

They live to lie in misery,
and bear eternal woe :

And live they must whilst God is just,
that he may plague them so.

CCX.

But who can tell the plagues of Hell,
and torments exquisite ?

Who can relate their dismal state,
and terrors infinite ?

Who fare the best, and feel the least,
yet feel that Punishment

Whereby to nought they should be
if God did not prevent. (brought,

CCXI.

The least degree of misery
there felt's incomparable :

The lightest pain they there sustain
more than intolerable.

But Gods great pow'r from hour to hour
upholds them in the fire, F 2 That

That they shall not consume a jot,
nor by its force expire.

CC XII.

But ah, the woe they undergo
(they more than all beside)

Who had the light, and knew the right,
yet would not it abide!

The sev'n-fold smart, which to their part
and portion doth fall,

Who Christ his Grace would not embrace,
nor hearken to his call!

CC XIII.

The *Amorites*, and *Sodomites*,
although their plagues be sore,
Yet find some ease, compar'd to these,
who feel a great deal more.

Almighty God, whose Iron Rod
to smite them never lins,
Doth most declare his Justice rare
in plaguing these mens sins.

CC XIV.

The pain of loss their souls doth toss
and wond'rously distress,
To think what they have cast away
by wilful wickedness.

We might have been redeem'd from sin,
think they, and liv'd above,
Being possest of heav'ly rest,
and joying in Gods love.

CC XV.

CCXV.

But woe, woe, woe our souls unto I
we would not happy be ;
And therefore bear Gods vengeance here
to all Eternity.

Experience and woeful fense
must be our painful teachers,
Who'd not believe, nor credit give
unto our faithful Preachers.

CCXVI.

Thus shall they lie, and wail and cry,
tormented, and tormenting
Their galled hearts with poyson'd darts ;
but now too late repenting.
There let them dwell i' th' flames of hell,
there leave we them to burn,
And back agen unto the men
whom Christ acquits return.

CCXVII.

The Saints behold with courage bold,
and thankful wonderment,
To see all those that were his foes
thus sent to punishment :
Then do they sing unto their King
a song of endlesſ praise.
They praise his Name, and do proclaim,
that just are all his ways.

CCXVIII.

Thus with great joy and melody
to Heaven they all ascend,

Him

Him there to praise with sweetest lays,
and Hymns that never end.
Where with long Rest they shall be blest,
and nought shall them annoy :
Where they shall see as seen they be,
and whom they love, enjoy.

CC XIX.

O glorious Place ! where face to face
Jehovah may be seen,
By such as were sinners whilere,
and no dark veil between.
Where the Sun-shine, and Light divine,
of Gods bright Countenance
Doth rest upon them every one
with sweetest influence.

CC XX.

O blessed state of the Renate !
O wond'rous Happiness (thought
To which they're brought, beyond what
can reach, or words express !
Grief's water-course, and Sorrow's sourse
are turn'd to joyful streams.
Their old distress and heaviness
are vanished like dreams.

CC XXI.

For God above in arms of love
doth dearly them embrace,
And fills their sprites with such delights
and pleasures in his grace,
As shall not fail, nor yet grow stale
through frequency of use : Nor

Nor do they fear God's Favour there
to forfeit by abuse.

CCXXI.

For there the Saints are perfect Saints,
and holy ones indeed,
From all the sin, that dwelt within
their mortal body's free'd: (Christ's
Made Kings and Priests to God through
dear loves transcendency,
There to remain, and there to reign
with him *Eternally.*

F I N I S.

I Walk'd and did a little Mole-bill view,
 Full peopled with a most industrious crew
 Of busie Ants, where each one labour'd more
 Than if he were to bring home Indian Ore ;
 Here wrought the Pioneers, there march'd the
 Bands,

Here Colonies went forth to plant new Lands :
 These hasted out, and those supplies brought in,
 As if they had some sudden Seige foreseen :
 Until there came an angry Spade and cast
 Country and People to a Pit at last.

Again, I view'd a Kingdom in a Hive,
 Where every one did work, and so all thriye ;
 Some go, some come, some war, some watch and
 ward, [guard.

Some make the works, and some the works do
 These frame their curious waxen cells, & those
 Do into them their Nectar drops dispose :
 Until the greedy Gardner brought his smoke,
 And, for the work, did all the Work-men choke.

Lo here, frail Mortals may fit Emblems see
 Of their great toil, and greater vanity. [time,
 They weary out their brain, their strength, their
 While some to Arts, and some to Honours climb:
 They search earths bowels, cross the roaring seas,
 Mortgage their Souls, and forfeit all their ease,
 Grudge night her sleep, & lengthen out the day,
 To fat these bags, & cram those chests with clay.
 They rack and charm each creature to explore
 Some

Some latent Quintessence, not known before :
 Torture and squeeze out all its juice and blood,
 To try if they can now find out that GOOD,
 Which Solomon despair'd of, but at last
 On the same shore of Vanity are cast ;
 The spade stops their career of Pride and Lust,
 And calls them from their Clay unto their Dust.
 Leave off your Circles, Archimede, away,
 The King of Terrour calls, and will not stay :
 Miser, kiss all your Bags, and then lie down ; I
 Scholar, your Books ; Monarch, yield up your
 Crown : [make room,
 Give way Wealth, Honour, Arts, Thrones, back,
 That these pale Souls may come unto their doom.

Nor shew vain men the fruit of all that pain,
 Which in the end nothing but Loss did gain :
 Compute your lives, and all your hours up cast,
 Lo here's the total sum of all at last.

I rose up early, sat up late, to know
 As much as man, as tongues, as books could show,
 I toil'd to search all Science and all Art,
 But died ignorant of mine own Heart.
 I got great Honour, and my Fame did stream
 As far as doth the Morning's shining Beam ;
 My Name into a page of Titles swell'd,
 My head a Crown, my hand a Scepter held :
 Ador'd without, but shameful lusts within ;
 Adorn'd with Titles, but defil'd with sin, [cast
 With anxious thoughts, with saddest cares &
 I gain'd these Lordships, and this Soul I lost :

My greedy Heir now hovers o'er my pelf,
 I purchase Land for him, Hell for my self.
 Go on you nobler Brains, and fill your sight
 As full of Learning as the Sun's of light ;
 Expand your Souls to Truth as wide as Day,
 Know all that Men, know all that Angels say :
 Write shops of Volumns, and let every Book
 Be fill'd with lustre as was Moses look :
 Yet know, all this is but a better kind
 Of sublime vanity, and more refin'd :
 Except a saving knowledge crown the rest,
 Devils know more, and yet shall neer be blest.

Go on, ambitious Worm, yet, yet aspire,
 Lay a sure Scene how you may yet rise higher :
 March forward, Macedonian Horn, add on
 Gaza to Tyre, Indies to Babylon ;
 Make stirrups of the peoples backs and bones,
 Climb up by them to Diadems and Thrones :
 Thy Crowns are all but grafts; thine was the toil,
 Thy Captains come, and they divide the spoil.
 Except one heav'nly crown crown all the rest,
 Devils are Potentates, and yet not blest.

Go on, base Dunghil-souls, heap gold as mire,
 Sweep silver as the dust, emulate Tyre,
 Fill every Ware-house, purchase every Field,
 Add house to house, Pelion on Ossa build ;
 Get Mida's vote to transubstantiate
 Whatere you please all into golden plate ;
 Build wider barns, sing requiem to your heart,
 Feel your wealths pleasures only, not their smart,
 Except

Except his Riches who for us was poor,
Do sweeten those which Mortals so adore ;
Except sublimer wealth crown all the rest,
Devils have nobler Treasures, yet not blest.

*Cease then from vain delights, & set your mind
That solid and enduring GOOD to find,
Which sweetens life and death, which will en-
On an immortal Soul immortal peace ; (crease
Which will replenish and advance you higher
Than e're your own Ambition could aspire.*

Fear your great Maker with a Child-like aw,
Believe his Grace, love and obey his Law.
This is the total work of man, and this (Bliss,
Will crown you here with Peace, and there with

*Be kind unto your selves, believe and try :
If not, go on, fill up your lusts and die.*

*Sing peace unto your selves ; 'twill once be known
Whose word shall stand, your Judg's or your own.
Crown thee with Rose-buds, satiate thine eyes,
Glut every sense with her own vanities :
Melt into pleasures, until that which Lust
Did not before consume, rot into dust : (read,
The Thrones are set, the Books will strait be
Hell will her souls, & graves give their dead ;
Then there will be (and the time is not far)
Fire on the Bench, and Stubble at the Bar.*

*O sinners ruminate these thoughts agen,
You have been Beasts enough, at last be Men.
Christ yet intreats, but if you will not turn,
Where grace will not convert, there fire will burn.*





A short Discourse about Eternity.

I.

WHat mortal man can with his span
mete out Eternity ?
Or fathom it by depth of wit,
or strength of memory ?
The lofty Skie is not so high ;
Hell's depth to this is small ;
The World so wide is but a stride,
compared herewithal.

II.

It is a main great Ocean,
Without or Bank or Bound :
A deep Abyss, wherein there is
no bottom to be found.
This World hath flood now since the Flood,
for thousand years well near,
And had before endured more
than sixteen hundred year.

III.

But what's the time from the Worlds first
unto this present day,
If we thereby Eternity
to measure should essay ?
The whole duration since the Creation,
though long, yet is more little,
If placed by Eternity,
than is the smallest tittle.

IV.

Tell every Star both near and far
in Heavens bright Canopy,
That doth appear throughout the year,
of high or low degree :

Tell

On Eternity.

73

Tell every Tree that thou canst see
in this vast Wilderness,
Up in the Woods, down by the Floods,
in thousand miles progress.

V.

The sun is vast, yet not so vast
but that thou m^yst go on
To multiply the Leaves thereby,
that hang those Trees upon :
Add thereunto the drops that thou
imaginst to be
In April shocr's, that bring forth Flowers
and Blooms plenteously.

VI.

Number the Fowls and living Souls,
that through the Air do fly,
The winged Hosts in all the Coasts
beneath the starry Skie :
Count all the grass as thou dost pass
Through many a pasture land,
And dewy drops that on the tops
of Herbs and Plants do stand.

VII.

Number the Sand upon the Strand,
and Atoms of the Air ;
And do thy best on Man and Beast
to reckon every Hair :
Take all the Dust, if so thou lust,
and add to thine account :
Yet shall the years of sinners tears
the number far surmount.

VIII.

Nought joyn'd to Nought can ne're make ought,
nor Cyphers make a Sum ;
Nor things Finite to Infinite
by multiplying come :

A Cockle-shell may serve as well
to lave the Ocean dry,
As finite things and Reckonings
to bound Eternity.

IX.

O happy they that live for ay
with Christ in Heav'n above !
Who know withal that nothing shall
deprive them of his love.

Eternity ! Eternity !

Oh, were it not for thee,
The Saints in Bliss and Happiness
could never happy be.

X.

For if they were in any fear
that this their joy might cease,
It would annoy (if not destroy)
and interrupt their peace :
But being sure it shall endure
so long as God shall live ;
The thoughts of this unto their bliss
do full perfection give.

XI.

Cheer up, you Saints, amidst your wants,
and sorrows many a one :
Lift up the head, shake off all dread,
and moderate your mone.
Your sufferings and evil things
will suddenly be past :
Your sweet Fruitions, and blessed Visions.
for evermore shall last.

XII.

Lament and mourn you that must burn
amidst those flaming Seas :
If once you come to such a doom,
for ever farewell ease.

O sad estate and desperate,
that never can be mended
Until Gods will shall change, or till
Eternity be ended !

XIII.

If any one this Question
shall unto me propound ;
What have the years of sinners tears
no limits or no bound ?
It kill's our heart to think of smart,
and pains that last for ever ;
And heat of fire that shall expire,
or be extinguish'd never.

XIV.

I'll answer make, (and let them take
my words as I intend them ;
For this is all the Cordial
that here I have to lend them)
When Heav'n shall cease to flow with peace,
and all felicity :
Then Hell may cease to be the place
of woe and misery.

XV.

When Heav'n is Hell, when Ill is Well,
when Virtue turns to Vice,
When wrong is Right, when Dark is Light,
when Nought is of great price :
Then may the years of sinners tears
and sufferings expire,
And all the hosts of damned ghosts
escape out of Hell fire.

XVI.

When Christ above shall cease to love ;
when God shall cease to reign,
And be no more, as heretofore,
the worlds great Sovereign,

Or not be just, or favour lust,
or in mens sins delight :
Then wicked men (and not till then)
to Heav'n may take their flight.

XVII.

When Gods great Power shall be brought lower
by foreign Puissance ;
Or be decay'd, and weaker made
through Times continuance :
When drowsiness shall him oppres,
and lay him fast asleep :
Then sinful men may break their Pen,
and out of Prison creep.

XVIII.

When those in Glory shall be right sorry
they may not change their place,
And wish to dwell with them in Hell,
never to see Christ's face :
Then those in pain may freedom gain ;
and be with glory dight :
Then hellish Fiends may be Christ's Friends
and Heirs of Heaven hight.

XIX.

Then ! Ah poor men ! what ! not till then !
no, not an hour before :
For God is just, and therefore must
torment them evermore.
Eternity ! Eternity !
thou mak'st hard hearts to bleed :
The thoughts of thee in Misery,
do make men wail indeed.

XX.

When they remind what's still behind,
and ponder this word *NEVER*,
That they must here be made to bear
Gods Vengeance for *EVER* :

The

The thought of this more bitter is
than all they feel beside :
Yet what they feel, nor heart of steel,
nor flesh of brass can 'bide.

XXI.

To lie in woe, and undergo
the direful pains of Hell,
And know withal, that there they shall
for ay, and ever dwell ;
And that they are from rest as far,
when fifty thousand year
Twice told are spent in punishment,
as when they first came there.

XXII.

This, Oh ! this makes Hell's fiery flakes
much more intolerable ;
This makes frail wights, and damned sprights
to bear their Plagues unable.
This makes men bite, for fell despite,
their very tongues in twain :
This makes them roar for great horrour,
and trebleth all their pain.



A POSTSCRIPT unto the READER.

And now, good Reader, I return again
To talk with thee, who hast been at the pain
To read throughout, and heed what went before ;
And unto thee I'll speak a little more.
Give ear, I pray thee, unto what I say,
That God may hear thy voice another day.
Thou hast a Soul, my friend, and so have I,
To save or lose, a Soul that cannot die :
A Soul of greater price than Gold or Gems,
A Soul more worth than Crowns and Diadems :

A Soul at first created like his Maker ;
 And of Gods Image made to be partaker :
 Upon the wings of noblest Faculties
 Taught for to soar above the starry skies,
 And not to rest, until it understood
 It self possessed of the chiefeſt Good.
 And ſince the Fall, thy ſoul retaineth ſtill
 The Faculties of Reason and of Will ;
 But Oh ! how much deprav'd and out of frame,
 As if they were ſome others, not the ſame.
 Thine Understanding diſmally benighted,
 And Reasons eye in ſpir'ual things dim-fighted,
 Or eſe stark blind : Thy Will inclin'd to evil,
 And nothing eſe, a Slave unto the Devil ;
 That loves to live, and liveth to transgresſ,
 But ſhuns the ways of God and Holineſs :
 All thine affections are diſorder'd,
 And thou by head-strong paſſions art miſled.
 What need I tell thee of thy crooked way,
 And many wicked wandrings, every day ?
 Or that thy own transgresſions are more
 In number, than the ſands upon the ſhore ?
 Thou art a lump of wickedneſs become,
 And mayſt with horror think upon thy doom :
 Until thy ſoul be washed in the flood
 Of Christ's moſt dear, Soul-cleansing, precious blood
 That, that alone can do away thy ſin
 Which thou wert born and haſt long lived in.
 That, only that, can pacifie Gods wrath,
 If apprehended by a lively faith,
 Now whilſt the day and means of grace doth laſt,
 Before the opportunity be paſt. -
 But if, O man, thou liuſt a Christleſſ creature,
 And death ſurprise thee in a ſtate of naſure,
 (As who can tell but that may be thy caſe)
 How wilt thou ſtand before thy Judges face ?

When

When he shall be reveal'd in flaming fire,
And come to pay ungodly men their hire ;
To execute due vengeance upon those
That know him not, or that have been his foes :
What wilt thou answer unto his demands,
When he requires a reason at thine hands
Of all the things that thou hast said, or done,
Or left undone, or set thine heart upon ?
When he shall thus with thee expostulate ;
What cause hadst thou thy Maker for to hate,
To take up arms against thy Sovereign,
And enmity against him to maintain ?
What injury hath God Almighty done thee ?
What good hath he with-held that might have won
What evil or injustice hast thou found (thee ?
In him, that might unto thy hurt redound ?
If neither felt nor feared injury
Hath moved thee to such hostility :
What made thee then the Fountain to forsake,
And unto broken Pits thy self betake ?
What reason hadst thou to dishonour God,
Who thee with mercies never cease to load ?
Because the Lord was good, hast thou been evil ;
And taken part against him with the Devil ?
For all his cost to pay him with despite !
And all his love with hatred to requite !
Is this the fruit of God's great patience,
To wax more bold in disobedience ?
To kick against the bowels of his love !
Is this aright his bounty to improve ?
Stand still, ye Heav'ns, and be astonished,
That God by man should thus be injured.
Give ear, O Earth, and tremble at the sin
Of those that thine Inhabitants have been.
But thou, vile wretch, hast added unto all
Thine other faults, and facts so criminal,

The

The damning sin of wilful Unbelief.

Of all Transgressors hadst thou been the chief ;
Yet when time was, thou might'st have been set free
From sin, and wrath, and punishment by me.
But thou wouldest not accept of Gospel grace,
Nor on my terms eternal life embrace.

As if all thy breaches of Gods Law
Were not enough upon thy head to draw
Eternal wrath, thou hast despis'd a Saviour,
Rejected me, and trampled on my favour.
How oft have I stood knocking at thy door,
And been denied entrance evermore ?

How often hath my Spirit been withstood,
When as I sent him to have done thee good ?

Thou hast no need of any one to plead
Thy cause, or for thy Soul to intercede :
Plead for thy self, if thou hast ought to say,
And pay thy forfeitures without delay.

Behold, thou dost ten thousand Talents owe :
Or pay thy debt, or else to Prison go.

Think, think, O man, when Christ shall thus unfold
Thy secret guilt, and make thee to behold

The ugly face of all thy sinful errours,
And fill thy face with his amazing terrors,
And let thee see the flaming pit of hell,
(Where all that have no part in him shall dwell)

When he shall thus expositulate the case :
How canst thou bear to look him in the face ?

What wilt thou do without an Advocate,
Or plead, when as thy state is desperate ?
Dost think to put off him with fair pretences ?
Or wilt thou hide and cover thine offences ?
Can any thing from him concealed be,
Who doth the hidden things of darkness see ?
Art thou of force his power to withstand ?
Canst thou by might escape out of his hand ?

Dost

Dost thou intend to run out of his sight,
And save thy self from punishment by flight ?
Or wilt thou be eternally accurst,
And 'bide his vengeance, let him do his worst ?
Oh, who can bear his indignations heat ?
Or 'bide their; pains of hell, which are so great ?
If then thou neither canst his wrath endure,
Nor any ransome after death procure :
If neither Cries nor Tears can move his heart
To pardon thee, or mitigate thy smart ;
But unto Hell thou must perforce be sent
With dismal horrour and astonishment :
Consider, O my Friend, what cause thou hast
With fear and trembling, while as yet thou mayst,
To lay to heart thy sin and misery,
And to look out after the Remedy.
Consider well the greatness of thy danger,
O Child of wrath, and object of Gods anger.
Thou hangeſt over the infernal pit
By one ſmall thread, and car'ſt thou not a whit ;
There's but a ſtep between thy ſoul and death :
Nothing remains but ſtopping of thy breath,
(Which may be done to morrow, or before)
And then thou art undone for evermore :
Let this awaken thy ſecurity,
And make thee look about thee ſpeedily.
How canſt thou reſt an hour, or ſleep a night,
Or in they creature comforts take delight ?
Or with vain toys thy ſelf forgetful make
How near thou art unto the burning Lake ?
How canſt thou live without tormenting fears ?
How canſt thou hold from weeping floods of tears ?
Yea, tears of blood, I might almost have ſaid,
If ſuch like tears could from thine eyes he ſhed.
To gain the world, what will it profit thee,
And lose thy Soul and ſelf eternally ?

Eter-

Eternity on one small point dependeth :
The man is lost that this short life mis-spendeth.
For as the Tree doth fall, right so it lies :
And man continues in what state he dies.
Who happy die, shall happy rise again :
Who cursed die shall cursed still remain.
If under sin and wrath death leaves thee bound,
At Judgment under wrath thou shalt be found :
And then woe, woe that ever thou wert born
O wretched man, of Heaven and earth forlorn !
Consider this, all ye that God forget,
Who all his threatenings at nought do set,
Lest into pieces he begin to tear
Your Souls, and there be no deliverer.
O you that now sing care and fear away,
Think often of that formidable day,
Wherein the Heav'ns with a mighty noise,
And with an hideous heart-confounding voice,
Shall pass away together being roll'd,
As men are wont their garments up to fold :
When th' Elements with fervent heat shall melt,
And living creatures in the same shall swell,
And altogether in those flames expire,
Which set the earth's foundations on fire.
Oh, what amazement will your hearts be in,
And how will you to curse your selves begin,
For all your damned sloth, and negligence,
And unbelief, and gross impenitence ;
When you shall hear that dreadful Sentence past,
That all the wicked into Hell be cast ?
What horror will your Consciences surprise,
When you shall hear the fruitless-doleful cries
Of such as are compelled to depart
Unto the place of everlasting smart ?
What, when you see the sparks fly out of Hell,
And view the Dungeon where you are to dwell,
Wherin

Wherein you must eternally remain
In anguish and intolerable pain ?
What, when your hands and feet are bound together,
And you are cast into that lake for ever ?
Then shall you feel the truth of what you hear,
That hellish pains are more than you can bear ;
And that those torments are an hundred fold
More terrible than ever you were told.
Nor speak I this, good Reader, to torment thee
Before the time, but rather to prevent thee
From running head-long to thine own decay,
In such a perilous and deadly way.
We who have known and felt Jehovah's terrors,
Perswade men to repent them of their errors,
And turn to God in time, e're his Decree
Bring forth, and then there be no remedie.
If in the night, when thou art fast asleep,
Some friend of thine, that better watch doth keep,
Should see thy house all on a burning flame,
And thee almost inclosed within the same : —
If such a friend should break thy door and wake thee,
Or else by force out of the peril take thee :
What, wouldst thou take his kindness in ill part ?
Or frown upon him for his good desert ?
Such, O my friend, such is thy present state,
And danger, being unregenerate.
Awake, awake, and then thou shalt perceive
Thy peril greater than thou wilt believe:
Lift up thine eyes and see Gods wrathful ire
Preparing unextinguishable fire
For all that live and die impenitent. i
Awake, awake, O sinner, and repent,
And quarrel not because I thus alarm
Thy Soul, to save it from eternal harm.
Perhaps thou harbourest such thoughts as these,
I hope I may enjoy my carnal ease

A little longer, and my self refresh
 With those delights that gratifie the flesh :
 And yet repent before it be too late,
 And get into a comfortable state.
 I hope I have yet many years to spend,
 And time enough those matters to attend.
 Presumptuous heart ! is God engag'd to give
 A longer time to such as love to live
 Like Rebels still, who think to stain his Glory
 By wickednes, and after to be sorry ?
 Unto thy lust shall he be made a drudge,
 Who thee, and a' l ungodly men shall judge ?]
 Canst thou account sin sweet, and yet confess
 That, first or last it ends in bitterss ?
 Is sin a thing that must procure thee sorrow,
 And wouldst thou dally with't another morrow ?
 O foolish man, who loveth to enjoy
 That which will thee distress or else destroy !
 What gained Sampson by his *Dalilah* ?
 What gained David by his *Bathshebab* ?
 The one became a slave, lost both his eyes,
 And made them sport that were his enemies :
 The other perneth, as a certain token
 Of God's displeasure, that his bones were broken.
 Read, whoso list, and ponder what he reads ,
 And he shall find small joy in evil deeds.
 Moreover this consider, that the longer
 Thou liv'st in sin, thy sin will grow the stronger :
 And then it will an harder matter prove,
 To leave those wicked haunts that thou dost love.
 The Blackmore may as eas'y change his skip,
 As old transgressors leave their wonted sin.
 And who can tell what may become of thee,
 Or where thy Soul in one days time may be ?
 We see that Death nor old nor young men spares,
 But one and other takes at unawares.

For

For in a moment, whilst men Peace do cry,
Destruction seizeth on them suddenly.
Thou, who this morning art a lively wight.
Mayst be a Corps and damned Ghost e're night.
Oh dream not then, that it will serve the turn
Upon thy Death-bed for thy sins to mourn.
But think how many have been snatch'd away,
And had no time for Mercy once to pray.
It's just with God Repentance to deny:
To such, as put it off until they die.
And late Repentance seldom proveth true:
Which if it fail, thou know'st what must ensue;
For after this short life is at an end,
What is amiss thou never canst amend.
Believe, O man, that to procrastinate,
And to put off until it be too late,
As 'tis thy sin, so is it Satans wile,
Whereby he doth great multitudes beguile.
How many thousands hath this strong delusion
Already brought to ruin and confusion,
Whose Souls are now reserv'd in Iron Chalns
Under thick darkness to eternal pains?
They thought of many years, as thou dost now:
But were deceived quite, and so mayst thou.
Oh then, my friend, while not away thy time,
Nor by Rebellion aggravate thy Crime.
Oh put not off Repentance till to morrow.
Adventure not, without God's leave to borrow:
Another day to spend upon thy lust,
Lest God (that is most holy, wise, and just)
Denounce in wrath, and to thy terrour say,
This night shall Devils fetch thy Soul away.
Now seek the face of God with all thy heart,
Acknowledge unto him how vi'e thou art;
Tell him thy sins deserve eternal wrath,
And that it is a wonder that he hath

Permitted thee so long to draw thy breath,
 Who might have cut thee off by sudden death,
 And sent thy Soul unto the lowest Pit,
 From whence no price should ever ransom it ;
 And that he may most justly do it still
 (Because thou hast deserv'd it) if he will.
 Yet also tell him, that if he shall please,
 He can forgive thy sins, and thee release :
 And that in Christ his Son he may be just,
 And justify all those that on him trust ;
 That though thy Sins are of a Crimson dye,
 Yet Christ his blood can cleanse thee thorowly.
 Tell him, that he may make his glorious Name
 More wondrous by covering thy shame.
 That Mercy may be greatly magnify'd,
 And Justice also fully satisfy'd,
 If he shall please to own thee in his Son,
 Who hath paid dear for Man's Redemption.
 Tell him thou hast an unbelieving heart,
 Which hindereth thee from coming for a part
 In Christ, and that although his terrors awe thee,
 Thou canst not come, till he be pleas'd to draw thee.
 Tell him, thou know'st thy heart to be so bad,
 And thy condition so exceeding sad,
 That though Salvation may be had for nought,
 Thou canst not come and take, till thou be brought :
 Oh beg of him to bow thy stubborn will
 To come to Christ, that he thy lusts may kill.
 Look up to Christ for his attractive pow'r,
 Which he exerceth in a needful hour ;
 Who saith, when as I listed up shall be,
 Then will I draw all sorts of men to me.
 Oh wait upon him with due diligence,
 And trembling fear in every Ordinance ;
 Unto his Call earnest attention give,
 Whose voice makes deaf men hear, & dead men live,

Thus

Thus weep, and mourn, thus hearken, pray, and wait:
'Till he behold, and pity thine estate,
Who is more ready to bestow his Grace,
Than thou the same art ready to embrace.
Yea, he hath might enough to bring thee home,
Though thou hast neither strength nor will to come.
If he delay to answer thy Request:
Know that oft times he doth it for the best;
Not with intent to drive us from his door,
But for to make us importune him more;
Or else to bring us duly to confess,
And be convinc'd of our unworthiness.
Oh be not weary then, but persevere
To beg his Grace, 'till he thy suit shall hear:
And leave him not, nor from his footstool go,
'Till over thee Compassion's skirt he throw.
Eternal life will recompence thy pains,
If found at last, with everlasting gains.
For if the Lord be pleas'd to hear thy cries,
And to forgive thy great iniquities,
Thou wilt have cause for ever to admire
And laud his Grace, that granted thy desire.
Then shalt thou find thy labour is not lost:
But that the good obtain'd surmounts the cost.
Nor shalt thou grieve for loss of sinful pleasures,
Exchang'd for heavenly joys and lasting treasures.
The yoke of Christ, which once thou didst esteem
A tedious yoke, shall then most easie seem.
For why? The love of Christ shall thee constrain
To take delight in that which was thy pain.
The ways of Wisdom shall be pleasant ways,
And thou shalt chuse therein to spend thy days.
If once thy Soul be brought to such a pass:
O bless the Lord, and magnifie his Grace.
Thou, that of late hadst reason to be sad,
May'st now rejoice, and be exceeding glad;

For thy condition is as happy now,
As erst it was disconsolate and low.
Thou art become as rich, as whileome poor ;
As blessed now, as cursed heretofore.
For being cleansed with Christ's precious blood,
Thou hast an interest in the Chiefest Good :
God's anger is towards thy Soul appeased :
And in his Christ he is with thee well-pleased.
Yea, he doth look upon thee with a mild
And gracious Aspect as upon his child.
He is become thy Father and thy Friend,
And will defend thee from the cursed Fiend.
Thou need'st not fear the roaring Lions rage,
Since God Almighty doth himself engage
To bear thy Scul in Everlasting Arms,
Above the reach of all destructive harms.
What's ever here thy sufferings may be,
Yet from them all the Lord shall rescue thee :
He will preserve thee by his wond'rous might
Unto that rich Inheritance in light.
Oh sing for joy, all ye Regenerate,
Whom Christ hath brought into this blessed state :
O love the Lord, all ye his Saints who hath
Redeemed you from everlasting wrath :
Who hath by dying made your Souls to live,
And what he dearly bought doth freely give.
Give up your selves to walk in all his ways,
And study how to live unto his praise.
The time is short you have to serve him here &
The day of your deliverance draweth near.
Lift up your heads, ye upright ones in heart,
Who in Christ's Purchace have obtain'd a part.
Behold ! he rides upon a shining Cloud,
With Angels voice, and Trumpet sounding loud.
He comes to save his folk from all their foes,
And plague the men that Holiness oppose.
So come, Lord Jesu, quickly come we pray,
Yea, come and hasten our Redemption day.



A SONG of E M P T I N E S S,
to fill up the *Empty Pages* following.

Vanity of Vanities.

Vain, frail, short-liv'd and miserable man,
Learn what thou art when thine estate is best;
A restless wave oth' troubled Ocean,
A dream, a lifeless Picture finely drest.

A wind, a Flower, a Vapour, and a Bubble,
A wheel that stands not still, a trembling Reed,
A rolling Stone, dry Dust, light Chaff, and Stubble,
A shadow of something, but nought indeed.

Learn what deceitful toys, and empty things,
This world and all its best Enjoyments be:
Out of the Earth no true Contentment springs;
But all things here are vexing Vanity.

For what is Beauty, but a fading flower?
Or what is Pleasure, but the Devils bait,
Whereby he catcheth whom he would devour,
And multitudes of Souls doth ruinate?

And what are Friends, but mortal men, as we?
Whom Death from us may quickly separate?
Or else their hearts may quite estranged be,
And all their love be turned into hate.

90 **Vanity of Vanities.**

*And what are Riches to be doted on?
uncertain, fickle, and ensnaring things !
They draw mens Souls into Perdition,
And when most needed, take them to their wings.*

*Ah foolish man, that sets his heart upon
Such empty shadows, such wild-fowl as these,
That being gotten will be quickly gone,
And whil'st they stay increase but his disease !*

*As in a Dropse drinking drought begets :
The more he drinks, the more he still requires ?
So on this World whose affection sets,
His wealth's increase encreaseth his desires.*

O happy man, whose Portion is above, (him.
Where Floods, where Flames, where Foes cannot bereave
Most wretched man, that fixed hath his love
Upon this World, that surely will deceive him !

*For what is Honour ? what is Sov'reignty,
Whereto mens hearts so restlessly aspire ?
Whom have they crowned with Felicity
When did they ever satisfie desire ?*

*The Ear of man with bearing is not fill'd :
To see new sights still coveteth the Eye :
The croaking Stomach though it may be still'd,
Yet croakes again without a new supply.*

*All earthly things mans cravings answer not,
Whose little heart would all the world contain,
(If all the world should fall to one mans Lot)
And notwithstanding empty still remain.*

*The Eastern Conquerour was said to weep,
When be the Indian Ocean did view,*

To see his Conquests bounded by the Deep,
And no more worlds remaining to subdue.

Who would that man in his Enjoyments bless,
Or envy him, or covet his estate,
Whose gettings do augment his greediness,
And make his wishes more intemperate?

Such is the wonted and the common guise
Of those on Earth that bear the greatest sway:
If with a few the case be otherwise,
They seek a Kingdom that abides for ay.

Moreover they of all the Sons of men
That Rule, and are in highest Places set,
Are tempted most to scorn their Brethren;
And God himself (without great Grace) forget.

For as the Sun doth blind the gazers eyes,
That for a time they nought discern aright:
So Honour doth befool and blind the wise,
And their own Lustre reaves them of their sight.

Great are their Dangers, manifold their Cares:
Through which, whilst others sleep, they scarcely nap:
And yet are oft surprized unawares,
And fall unsweeting into Envies Trap.

The mean Mechanick finds his kindly rest:
All void of fear sleepeth the Country Clown:
When greatest Princes often are distrest,
And cannot sleep upon their Beds of Down.

Could Strength or Valour men immortalize,
Could Wealth or Honour keep them from decay,
There were some cause the same to Idolize,
And give the lye to that which I do say:

But neither can such things themselves endure
Without the hazard of a Change one hour ;
Nor such as trust in them can they secure
From dismal days, or Deaths prevailing power.

If Beauty could the beautiful defend
From Deaths dominion, then fear Absalom
Had not been brought to such a shameful end :
But fair and foul unto the Grave must come.

If Wealth or Scepters could Immortal make,
Then, wealthy Croesus, wherefore art thou dead ?
If Warlike Force, which makes the World to quake,
Then why is Julius Cæsar perished.

Where are the Scipio's, Thunder-bolts of war ?
Victorious Pompey, Cæsars Enemy ?
Stout Hannibal, Rome's Terrour, known so far ?
Great Alexander, what's become of thee ?

If Gifts and Bribes Deaths favour might but win,
If Power it force, or Threatnings might it fray ;
All these and more, had still surviving been:
But all are gone, for Death will take no Nay.

Such is this world with all her pomp and glory ;
Such are the men whom worldly eyes admire :
Cut down by Time, and now become a Story,
That we might after better things aspire.

Go boast thy self of what thine heart enjoys,
Vain man ! triumph in all thy worldly bliss :
Thy best Enjoyments are but trash and toys ;
Delight thy self in that which worthless is.

Omnia praterunt preter amare Deum.

F I N I S.

